

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 128483

ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /056 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:CCORDER;OASD/ISA/FMRA:JREINERTSON:DME

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:GTCHURCHILL

EA/RA:LTC MEILAND

OES/APT/SA:COL EDDINGTON

-----075217 220532Z /20

R 210823Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO SECDEF WASHDC 0373

HQ USAF WASHDC/XXOXI/XXOXXP

HQ USAF ANDREWS AFB MD/FA

AFGL HANSCOM AFB MA/SUO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128483

E.O. 11652:ADS-DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: MARR, TSPA, AS

SUBJECT:REQUEST FOR OPERATING RIGHTS - PROJECT 2127

REFS: (A) STATE 258670 (DTG 192030Z OCT 76)

(B) CANBERRA 8409 (DTG 191132Z NOV 76)

1. REF A REQUESTED AND REF B GRANTED APPROVAL FOR LAUNCH OF SOUNDING ROCKETS FROM THE WOOMERA RANGE COMPLEX. THE USAF HAS A REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT OPERATIONS OF A SIMILAR NATURE AS DETAILED BELOW. DRAWING ON REF A AND THIS MESSAGE, REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK HOST APPROVAL FOR THIS PROJECT.

2. THE PROJECT NUMBER AND TITLE ARE 2127, SURVEY PROGRAM
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 128483

INFRARED CELESTIAL EXPERIMENTS (SPICE). THE SPICE PAYLOAD WOULD USE A GUIDED, SURPLUS MINUTEMAN SECOND STAGE FOR A BOOSTER. THE MOTOR WOULD HAVE FOUR MOVABLE NOZZLES WHICH WOULD CONTROL PITCH, YAW AND ROLL DURING THRUSTING USING AN INERTIAL REFERENCE FOR ERROR SIGNAL. FOR SAFETY, THE MOTOR WOULD HAVE A FLIGHT TERMINATION SYSTEM (FTS) WHICH, IF COMMANDED, MAKES A LONGITUDINAL CUT IN THE MOTOR CASE,

TERMINATING THRUST. MOTOR THRUST TIME IS 60 SECONDS. THE PAYLOAD WOULD BE RECOVERED TO BE REFLOWN. WITH A 1600 POUND (800 KG) SPICE PAYLOAD, TOTAL LIFTOFF WEIGHT IS

APPROXIMATELY 13,500 LBS. PEAK ALTITUDE WOULD BE 260 STATUTE MILES (416KM) AT 350 SECONDS (SEA LEVEL LAUNCH). WITH THE ADVANTAGE OF ACTIVE CONTROL DURING ARIES THRUST, DISPERSION IS MINIMAL. THE 3 SIGMA DISPERSION IS A CIRCLE WITH A 12 STATUTE MILE (19KM) RADIUS. THE EXPERIMENTAL PROFILE AND OBJECTIVES ARE ALMOST IDENTICAL TO THE 1974 HI STAR SOUTH EXPEDITION TO WOOMERA.

3. THE SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS AT WOOMERA WILL BE QUITE SIMILAR TO THOSE NEEDED FOR THE OPERATION OUTLINED IN REF A. THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE WILL BE ON THE AREA OF LAUNCHERS. THE ARIES WOULD ONLY NEED A SIMPLE STOOL AND BLAST DEFLECTOR ON A CONCRETE PAD FOR A LAUNCHER. HOWEVER, IT WOULD NEED A MOVABLE WORK PLATFORM FOR ACCESS TO UPPER LEVELS OF THE VEHICLE AND TO THE PAYLOAD. IN THE CASE OF SPICE, A SIMPLE SHELTER WOULD BE NEEDED AROUND THE PAYLOAD FOR CLEANLINESS. THIS COULD BE PART OF THE WORK PLATFORM.

4. THE LAUNCHES WOULD BE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED CASTOR LANCE LAUNCHES SCHEDULED FOR APRIL AND SEPTEMBER 1979.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 128483

VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEST RANGES, SPACE PROGRAMS, ROCKETS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE128483
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CCORDER;OASD/ISA/FMRA:JREINERTSON:DME
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: AS IFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780214-1251
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780536/aaaabemp.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c1d98a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 258670, 78 CANBERRA 8409
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2625203
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR OPERATING RIGHTS - PROJECT 2127
TAGS: MARR, TSPA, AS, US
To: CANBERRA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c1d98a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014